

Moston, Cornelius Arthur

March 1915
L.A.

OTTAWA, March 11th, 1915.

C. A. Masten, Esq., K.C.,
Room 58, Canada Life Building,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Masten:

I was glad to receive yours of March 9th and to learn of the progress being made in Toronto in connection with the formation of a Speakers Patriotic League. When completed I shall be glad if you would send me the names of your organizing committee, together with the suggested list of speakers, so that I can show it to Montreal to acquaint them with the method followed in your organization.

The counties which would fall under your jurisdiction would be - Lincoln, Welland, Haldimand, Norfolk, Brant, Wentworth, Halton, Peel, York, Ontario, Grey, Dufferin, Simcoe, the districts of Muskoka, Parry Sound, Algoma, and Nipissing, south of the Mattawa River (exclusive of the townships of Ferris and Bonfield). This is what is known as the Second Divisional Area, and you will find it all described in the Quarterly Militia List of March 9th, 1915, of which I will send you a copy. You will see (page 14) that this comprises the 2nd, 10th, 13th, 19th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 44th, 48th, 77th, 91st Regiments, as well as those in the First Mounted Brigade and Divisional Troops. I would suggest that you get Colonel Logie to furnish you with a statement showing in respect of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd contingents how many men were called for from each of these Regiments, and how many men were obtained. This will give you an idea of the military spirit in each county.

In so far as the Patriotic Fund is concerned, we would report as follows:-

Lincoln - 19th Lincoln Regiment - headquarters St. Catharines.

Lincoln Canadian Patriotic Fund with a branch at St. Catharines has done well.

Welland - 44th Lincoln and Welland - headquarters Niagara Falls.

Welland C.P.F. with headquarters at the town of Welland, has done very satisfactorily.

Haldimand - 37th Regiment Haldimand Rifles - headquarters York.

Haldimand has been somewhat backward. I was there on Monday, March 8th, and addressed the County Council, asking for a grant and advocating that a county organization be formed. They have voted \$500 per month for ten months to the C.P.F. The Commanding Officer told me on Monday that if he were called upon to supply further men from Haldimand County, it would be difficult to secure them unless stimulation was undertaken. I would suggest that you communicate with Lt.-Col. E. S. Baxter and ask how you can co-operate.

Norfolk - 39th Regiment Norfolk Rifles - headquarters Simcoe.

Norfolk County has been very backward as far as the Patriotic Fund is concerned.

Brant - 38th Regiment - Brantford.

Brant has done well for the Patriotic Fund.

Wentworth - 13th Royal Regiment - 91st Regiment Canadian Highlanders - Hamilton; 77th Wentworth Regiment - Dundas.

Wentworth, including Hamilton, has done well for the Patriotic Fund.

Halton - 20th Regiment Halton Rifles - headquarters Milton.

Halton has shown practically no interest in the National Patriotic Fund.

Peel - 36th Peel Regiment - headquarters Brampton.

Peel has a local organization and has raised by special taxation a sum equal to one mill on the dollar. They have sent in very little to us at Ottawa, but have, I understand, a good Peel County Patriotic Fund Committee, with headquarters at Brampton, of which Mr. A. H. Milner is Secretary.

York - 12th Regiment York Rangers - headquarters Aurora;
2nd Regiment Queen's Own Rifles, 10th Regiment Royal Grenadiers,
48th Regiment of Highlanders - headquarters Toronto.

The City of Toronto is looking after York County satisfactorily.

Ontario - 34th Ontario Regiment - headquarters Whitby.

The County Council of Ontario has established a Relief Fund, setting aside a sum of money for patriotic purposes. Mr. J. E. Farewell, County Clerk, Whitby, is secretary for this Fund. This county has not, however, helped the national undertaking to any considerable extent.

Grey - 31st Grey Regiment - headquarters Owen Sound.

Grey has a good organization of the Canadian Patriotic Fund at Owen Sound, and also branches at Meaford and Hanover. It has done fairly well by the Fund.

Dufferin - has appointed a Relief Committee, but has done nothing for the national Fund.

Simcoe - 35 Regiment Simcoe Foresters - headquarters Barrie.

The eastern part of the county around Barrie has been helpful, but Collingwood and Midland are dead in so far as the Patriotic Fund is concerned.

Muskoka and Parry Sound - 23rd Regiment Northern Pioneers - Parry Sound

Rather backward as far as the Fund is concerned.

Algoma - 51st Regiment or the Soc Rifles - headquarters Sault Ste. Marie.

Has done well by the Fund.

Nipissing - 97th Regiment of Algonquin Rifles - headquarters Sudbury.

Has done well by the Fund.

If you would ask the Military authorities at Toronto, they would doubtless give you figures showing how many men were asked from each of these districts for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd contingents, and how many were sent; that is to say, what counties readily supplied the full quota demanded of them. Such counties as fell below the assigned number might be regarded as requiring attention. In so far as we are concerned, the dead counties of your district are Haldimand, Norfolk, Halton and Dufferin. The counties of Ontario and Simcoe are dead in parts, such places as Collingwood and Midland being unresponsive. My suggestion would be that if you found on en-

quiry that recruiting has not been satisfactory in the counties where giving has been slack, these counties should be the field of your first endeavor.

You ask whether it would be possible to get rooms for the organizing committee in the Toronto Government Buildings, 24 Adelaide Street East. Is this building the property of the Dominion Government, and are there offices at present vacant therein? I should suppose that they would be under the control of the Department of Public Works and will take the matter up with the Hon. Robert Rogers, as you desire.

As to a secretary for your branch, undoubtedly Mr. Rean, who is our travelling Ontario organizer, would do the work extremely well, but for the present we need him to carry on campaigns for the Canadian Patriotic Fund. He has half a dozen places listed now to be taken up one after another, and would not be free for several months. The kind of man I should think you would want would be some one of the commercial traveller type, who has been accustomed to looking after and making himself agreeable to country people, who would have the necessary organizing ability and some newspaper talent to interest people of a community in the coming meeting, to advertise it thoroughly and to stage it properly. I should think there would be available in Toronto at this time quite a few young men capable of doing this sort of work and probably an advertisement in one of the newspapers would bring you into contact with several from whom a choice could be made.

Yours truly,

"Herbert B. Ames."

giving that something has not been satisfactory in the matter
where giving has been made, the committee should be the field
of your first endeavor.

You ask whether it would be possible to get money
for the organizing committee in the Toronto Dominion Building,
22 Adelaide Street East. In this building the property of the
Dominion Building, and was there a committee of persons who were
not a little surprised that they should be asked to do the
Department of Public Works and will take the matter up with the
Hon. Robert Rogers, as you desire.

As to a secretary for your society, undoubtedly Mr.
Hess, who is now travelling through Ontario, would be the work
extremely well, but for the present we shall not be doing so
for the Dominion Building Fund. He has with a dozen places listed
now to be taken up and after that, and will not be free for sev-
eral months. The kind of man I should think you would want would
be one of the somewhat younger type, who has been accustomed
to looking after and making himself responsible to many people, who
will have the necessary energy and ability and some newspaper talent
to handle people of a somewhat higher social position. I should think there would
be available in Toronto at this time quite a few young men capable
of doing this sort of work and probably an advertisement in one of
the newspapers would bring you into contact with several from whom a
choice could be made.

Yours truly,

"Harvey E. Ames."